

Listing of Claims/Amendments to the Claims:

The listing of claims that follows will replace all prior versions in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) A method for detecting ~~a defective~~ or ~~failure of~~ ~~a failed~~ compressed air load circuits in a vehicle compressed air system, in which pressure in lines to said compressed air load circuits ~~is~~ are continuously monitored, said method comprising the steps of:

momentarily shutting off ~~at least one~~ said compressed air load circuits;

at least one of measuring values and determining gradients of a variable of state in said compressed air system while said ~~at least one~~ compressed air load circuits ~~is~~ are momentarily shut off;

comparing at least one of said values and gradients with a predefined respective threshold value; and

~~detecting~~ identifying and permanently shutting off at least one of ~~a defective and failed ones~~ of said ~~at least one~~ compressed air load circuits when one of said values and gradients drops below said predefined respective threshold value at least one of during and after said ~~at least one~~ compressed air load circuits ~~is~~ are momentarily shut off; ~~and~~

~~permanently shutting off said at least one of a defective and failed one of said at least one compressed air load circuit.~~

2. (Canceled).

3. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein said step of momentarily shutting off said ~~at least one~~ compressed air load circuits is effected a predefined number of discrete times in succession.

4. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 3, further

comprising the steps of tracking said values and gradients while said ~~at least one~~ compressed air load circuits are pulsed off, and permanently shutting off ones of said ~~at least one~~ compressed air load circuits when one of said values and gradients is below said respective threshold value even after said step of momentarily shutting off said ~~at least one~~ compressed air load circuits is effected a predefined number of discrete times in succession.

5. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of refilling non-defective and non-failed ones of said ~~at least one~~ compressed air load circuits after said step of permanently shutting off said at least one of defective and failed compressed air load circuit is effected.

6. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of canceling shutoff of non-defective and non-failed ones of said ~~at least one~~ compressed air load circuits after permanent shutoff of said at least one of a defective and failed ones of said ~~at least one~~ compressed air load circuits.

7. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein said predefined respective threshold value corresponds to a variable of state to be adjusted in said ~~at least one~~ compressed air load circuits.

8. (Previously Presented) A system for detecting a defect or failure of a compressed air load circuit in a vehicle, comprising a compressed air supply part and a compressed air consumer part, said compressed air supply part including a compressor, said compressed air consumer part including a plurality of compressed air load circuits, electrically actuatable valves for supplying compressed air to said compressed air load circuits, sensors for monitoring pressure in said compressed air load circuits, and an electronic control unit for evaluating electrical signals from said sensors and for controlling said electrically actuatable

valves, wherein said electrically actuatable valves associated with said load circuits are switchable momentarily by said control unit to a shut-off state for detecting at least one of a defect and failure of one of said compressed air load circuits, and wherein said control unit is adapted to compare at least one of measured values and determined gradients of a variable of state obtained during said shut-off state with a predefined respective threshold value to identify at least one of said compressed air circuits having at least one of said values and gradients below said threshold value as at least one of a defective and failed compressed air load circuit, and to permanently turn off said at least one of a defective and failed circuit.

9. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 8, wherein electrically actuatable valves of non-defective and non-failed ones of said compressed air load circuits are switchable to an open normal state.

10. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 8, wherein said control unit is adapted to effect shutoff phases by briefly pulsing ~~at least one~~said electrically actuatable valves of said compressed air load circuits to shut-off state multiple times in succession.

11. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 10, wherein said control unit is adapted to determine said at least one of values and gradients during said shutoff phases and, after completion of a predefined number of shutoff phases, to detect ones of said compressed air load circuits having at least one of said values and gradients below said respective threshold value as at least one of defective and failed circuits.

12. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 11, wherein said control unit is adapted to switch electrically actuatable valves of non-defective and non-failed ones of said compressed air load circuits back to an open de-energized normal state.

13. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 11, wherein said non-defective and non-failed ones of said compressed air load circuits are refilled after said electrically actuatable valves have been switched to an open de-energized normal state.

14. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 8, wherein said threshold value corresponds to a value of said variable of state to be adjusted in said load circuit.

15. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 8, wherein said electrically actuatable valves are solenoid valves.